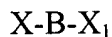


### **Amendments to the Claims:**

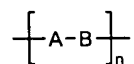
Applicants specifically request non-entry of the amendments requested in the response under 37 CFR 1.116 filed August 19, 2003. Further, this listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A method comprising reacting
  - a) at least one diacidic monomer, comprising about 1 to 100 mole % of at least one light-absorbing monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 300 nm and about 1200 nm and 99-0 mole % of a non-light absorbing monomer which does not absorb significant light at wavelengths above 300 nm or has a light absorption maximum below 300 nm, with
  - b) an organic compound having the formula



wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; X and X<sub>1</sub> are reactive groups and are independently selected from the group consisting of bromine, iodine and R-SO<sub>2</sub>O; wherein R is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl substituted with chlorine, fluorine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl or aryl, wherein said reaction is carried out in a solvent in the presence of a base to form a light absorbing polymeric composition having the formula



wherein B is as defined above, n is at least 2 and A comprises the residue of said diacidic monomer.

2. (Original) The process of claim 1 where said light-absorbing monomers have the formula



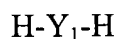
wherein H represents an acidic hydrogen atom; Y is a divalent light-absorbing moiety selected from the group consisting of chromophoric classes of azo, disazo, triazo, bis-azo, methine, arylidene, polymethine, azo-methine, azamethine, anthraquinone, anthrapyridone (3H-dibenz[f,ij]isoquinoline-2,7-dione, nitroarylamines anthrapyridine (7H-dibenz[f,ij]isoquinoline-7-one, phthaloylphenothiazine (14H-naphth[2,3-a]phenothiazine-8,13-dione, benzanthrone (7H(de)anthracene-7-one), anthrapyriridine (7H-benzo[e]perimidine-7-one), anthrapyrazole, anthraisothiazole, triphenodioxazine, thiaxanthene-9-one, fluorindine (5,12-dihydroquinoxaline [2,3-b]phenazine, quinophthalone, phthalocyanine, metal phthalocyanine, naphthalocyanine, metal naphthalocyanine, nickel dithiolenes, squarylium compounds, croconium compounds, coumarin (2H-1-benzopyran-2-one), coumarin imine (2H-1-benzopyran-2-imine), perinone, benzodifuran, phthaloylacridone, phthaloylphenoxazine (14H-naphtho[2,3-a]phenoxazine-8,13-dione, phthaloylacridone (13H-naphtho[2,3-c]acridine-5,8,14-trione), anthraquinonethioxanthene (8H-naphtho[2,3-c]thioxanthene-5,8,13-trione, anthrapyridazone, pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole, indigo, thioindigo, quinoline, xanthene, acridine, azine, cyanine, oxazine, 1,4 and 1,5-naphthoquinones, 2,5-diarylamino-terephthalic acids and esters, pyromellitic acid diimide, naphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3,4,9,10-perylenetetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3-aryl-2,5-dioxypyrroline, 3-aryl-5-dicyanomethylene-2-oxopyrroline, arylisoindoline, hydroxybenzophenone, benotriazole, naphthotriazole, diminoisoindoline, naphthopyran (3H-naphtho[2,1-6]pyran-3-one and 3-imine, phthalimides, 2-arylbenzazoles, carbostyryls, 1,2-diarylethenes, 2,5-diarylthiophenes, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles, triazines, 2,5-diarylfurans, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-thiadiazoles, thiophenes, 1,3-diphenyl-2-pyrazolines, 2-arylbenzofurans, 2,6-diphenylbenzofurans, quinolines, quinoxalines, 3,4-diarylfuranones, distyrylarenes, benzanthrone, polyarenes and naphthalimides.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the hydrogen atoms of said formula H-Y-H are independently bonded to an oxygen, sulfur, or nitrogen atom which is a part of the light absorbing moiety Y and which in combination provides two acidic functional groups.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said acidic functional groups have pK<sub>a</sub> values of from about 1.5 to about 12.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said acidic functional groups are independently selected from the group consisting of -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -SH, -OH attached to an aromatic ring, -CONHCO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-CO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-, 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl-, imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl, pyrazolyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>H attached to aromatic ring, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>5</sub> and -SO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sub>5</sub>, wherein R<sub>5</sub> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, aryl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl substituted with at least one group selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio and C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said non light-absorbing monomers have the formula

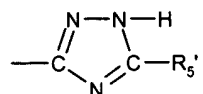


wherein H represents an acidic hydrogen atom; Y<sub>1</sub> is a divalent moiety selected from the group consisting of -O<sub>2</sub>C-R<sub>1</sub>-CO<sub>2</sub>- and -O-R<sub>2</sub>-O- and -O<sub>2</sub>C-R<sub>3</sub>-O-, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, 1-4-cyclohexylene, arylene, arylene-O-arylene, arylene-SO<sub>2</sub>-arylene, arylene-S-arylene, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-O- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene; wherein R<sub>2</sub> is selected from the group consisting of arylene, arylene-O-arylene, arylene-S-arylene, arylene-SO<sub>2</sub>-arylene, phenylene-phenylene, and phenylene-C(R<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-phenylene; wherein R<sub>4</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl; wherein R<sub>3</sub> is selected from arylene.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said polymeric composition is linear.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said diacidic monomers have pK<sub>a</sub> values of about 12 or below.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein H-Y-H includes a moiety selected from the group consisting of carboxy groups attached to an aromatic ring carbon or aliphatic carbon, hydroxy groups attached to an unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl radical, -CO-NHCO- groups attached to an aromatic ring to provide an imide and 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl group having the formula



wherein R<sub>5</sub>' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl and aryl.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 where n is between about 2 and about 25.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein n is between about 3 and about 15.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said base is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal carbonates, alkali metal bicarbonates and tertiary amines, aromatic nitrogen bases, bicyclic nitrogen containing bases having non-hindered electron pairs and mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein said base is selected from the group consisting of triethylamine, tri-n-butylamine, N-methylpiperidine, N,N'-dimethylpiperazine, N-methylmorpholine and N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine, pyridines, picolines, quinolines, isoquinolines, N-alkylpyrroles, N-alkylimidazoles, 1,8-diazabicyclo[5,4,0]undec-7-ene (DBU), 1,5-diazabicyclo[4,3,0]non-5-ene (DBN) and 1,4-diazadicyclo[2,2,2]octane and mixtures thereof.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said solvent is one or more aprotic polar solvents.

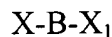
15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-dimethylformamide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-N-phenyl formamide, dimethylsulfoxide, aliphatic nitriles, sulfolane,

hexamethyl phosphoramidate, water, alcohols, ketones pyridine and ether-alcohols and mixtures thereof.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-dimethylformamide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-N-phenyl formamide, dimethylsulfoxide, aliphatic nitriles, sulfolane and hexamethyl phosphoramidate and mixtures thereof.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said reacting is conducted at a temperature between about 75°C and about 125°C.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic compound having the formula



is selected from the group consisting of disulfonate compounds where X and X<sub>1</sub> are both a sulfonate ester of the formula-OSO<sub>2</sub>R, wherein R is selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, phenyl or p-methylphenyl and wherein B is selected from C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene, -CH<sub>2</sub>-1,4-cyclohexylene-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>(O CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-4</sub> and-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O-1,4-phenylene-O-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-.

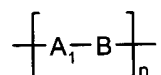
19. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein said B moiety of the organic compound having the formula X-B-X<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>6</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- and-CH<sub>2</sub>-1,4-cyclohexylene-CH<sub>2</sub>-.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic compound having the formula X-B-X<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of 1,2-ethandiol, dimethanesulfonate; 1,2-ethanediol bis(4-methylbenzenesulfonate); 1,4 butanediol, dimethane sulfonate; 1,6-hexanediol, dimethanesulfonate; 1,3-propanediol,2,2-dimethyl-, dimethanesulfonate; 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol, dimethanesulfonate; 1,1,3,3-tetramethylcyclobutanediol, dimethanesulfonate, and ethanol 2,2'-oxybis-dimethanesulfonate.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein A of said light absorbing polymeric composition comprises 100 mole% of said light-absorbing monomer.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said diacidic light absorbing monomer has a light absorption maximum between about 300 nm and about 1200 nm and is present in said light absorbing polymeric composition in an amount at least about 50% by weight %.

23. (Currently amended) A colored light absorbing composition having the formula

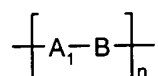


wherein A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, and C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition.

24. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a thermoplastic polymer blended with at least one colored light absorbing linear polymeric composition of claim 23.

25. (Original) The composition of claim 24 wherein said thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyesters, polyolefins, polyamides, polyimides, polyvinyl chloride, polyurethanes, polycarbonates, cellulose esters, polyacrylates, polyvinylesters, polyester-amides, polystyrene, polyacrylonitrile-butadiene- styrene, polystyrene-acrylonitrile and mixtures and blends thereof.

26. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



wherein  $A_1$  comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of  $C_2$ - $C_{12}$  alkylene,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkylene,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene-  $C_3$ -  $C_8$ -cycloalkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene-arylene-  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene, and  $C_2$ -  $C_4$ -alkylene-L-arylene-L-  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene and  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-(L-  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene) $_{1-4}$ , wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein  $A_1$  comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having the structure



wherein H represents an acidic hydrogen atom and Y is a divalent light-absorbing moiety selected from the chromophoric classes consisting of azo, disazo, triazo, bis-azo, methine, arylidene, polymethine, azo-methine, azamethine, anthraquinone, anthrapyridone (3H-dibenz[f,ij] isoquinoline-2,7-dione, nitroarylamines anthrapyridine (7H-dibenz[f,ij]isoquinoline-7-one, phthaloylphenothiazine (14H-naphth[2,3-a]phenothiazine-8,13-dione, benzanthrone (7H(de)anthracene-7-one), anthrapyrindine (7H-benzo[e]perimidine-7-one), anthrapyrazole, anthraisothiazole, triphenodioxazine, thioxanthene-9-one, fluorindine (5,12-dihydroquinoxaline [2,3-b]phenazine, quinophthalone, phthalocyanine, metal phthalocyanine, naphthalocyanine, metal naphthalocyanine, nickel dithiolenes, squarylium compounds, croconium compounds, coumarin (2H-1-benzopyran-2-one), coumarin imine (2H-1-benzopyran-2-imine), perinone, benzodifuran, phthaloylacridone, phthaloylphenoxazine (14H-naphtho[2,3-a]phenoxazine-8,13-dione, phthaloylacridone (13H-naphtho[2,3-c] acridine-5,8,14-trione), anthraquinonethioxanthane (8H-naphtho[2,3-c]thioxanthene-5,8,13-trione, anthrapyridazone, pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole, indigo, thioindigo, quinoline, xanthene, acridine, azine, cyanines, oxazine, 1,4 and 1,5-naphthoquinones, 2,5-diarylamino-terephthalic acids and esters, pyromellitic acid diimide, naphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3,4,9,10-perylenetetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3-aryl-2,5-dioxypyrroline, 3-aryl-5-dicyanomethylene-2-oxopyrroline, arylisindoline, hydroxybenzophenone, benzotriazole, naphthotriazole, diminoisindoline, naphthopyran (3H-naphtho[2,1-6]pyran-3-one and 3-imine, phthalimides, 2-arylbenzazoles,

carbostyryls, 1,2-diarylethenes, 2,5-diarylthiophenes, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles, triazines, 2,5-diarylfurans, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-thiadiazoles, thiophenes, 1,3-diphenyl-2-pyrazolines, 2-arylbenzofurans, 2,6-diphenylbenzofurans, quinolines, quinoxalines, 3,4-diarylfuranones, distyrylarenes, benzanthrones, polyarenes and naphthalimides.

27. Canceled.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~The light absorbing linear polymeric composition of~~ ~~Claim~~ claim 25 wherein A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having at least one acidic group other than carboxy and having a light absorption maximum between about ~~300~~ 325 nm and about ~~1200~~ 1100 nm and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, and C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2.

29. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two carboxy groups as acidic functional groups.

30. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio groups as acidic functional groups.

31. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one carboxy and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group as acidic functional groups.

32. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two hydroxy groups attached to aromatic ring(s).

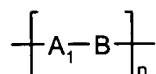
33. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one carboxy group.

34. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group.



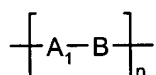
35. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 23 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two carboxy groups as acidic functional groups.

36. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



wherein A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, and C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio groups as acidic functional groups.

37. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula

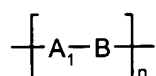


wherein A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, and C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about

50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one carboxy and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group as acidic functional groups.

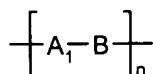
38. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 23 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two hydroxy groups attached to aromatic ring(s).

39. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



wherein A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, and C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one carboxy group.

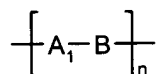
40. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



wherein A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, and C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein

n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group.

41. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



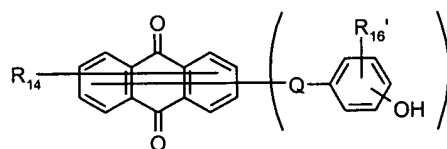
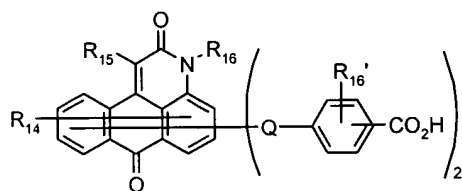
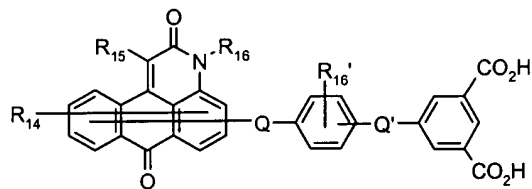
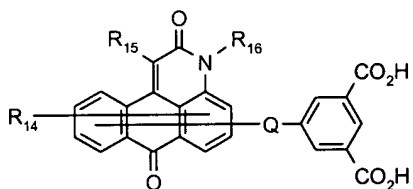
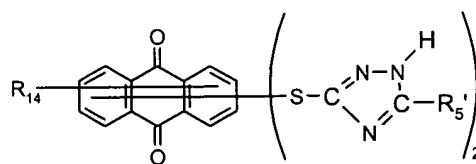
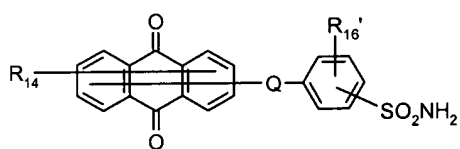
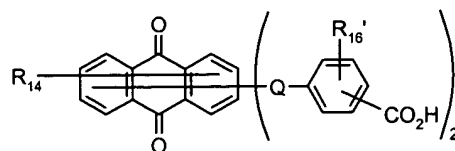
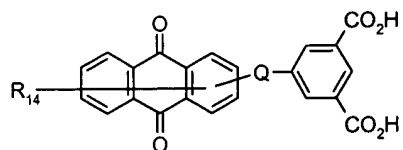
wherein A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>- C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-arylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene, and C<sub>2</sub>- C<sub>4</sub>-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene-(L- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)<sub>1-4</sub>, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>aryl)-, -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises a diacidic sulfamoyl (-SO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>) group.

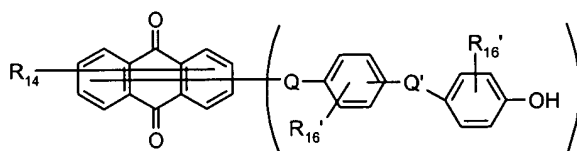
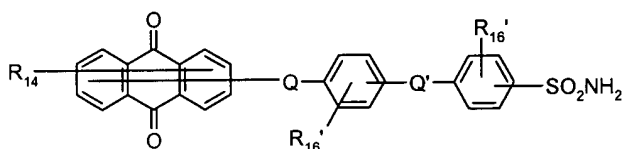
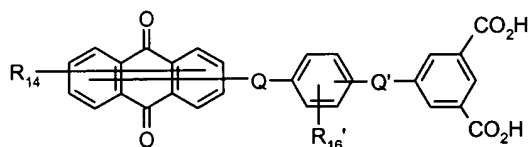
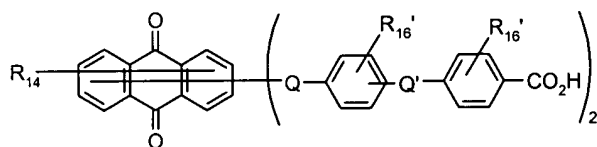
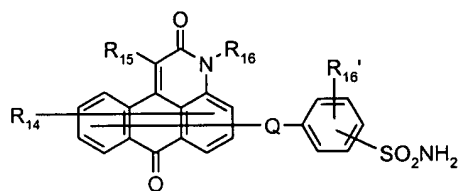
42. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 23 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two acidic groups independently selected from the group consisting of -CO<sub>2</sub>H, SH, hydroxy attached to an aromatic ring, -CONHCO- (imide), -SO<sub>2</sub>NHCO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>NHSO<sub>2</sub>-, 1(H)-1,2,4-triazolyl-3-yl-, imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl, pyrazolyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>H attached to an aromatic ring, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>5</sub> and -SO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sub>5</sub>, wherein R<sub>5</sub> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl substituted with at least one group selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio and C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl; aryl.

Claims 43 - 51 (Canceled).

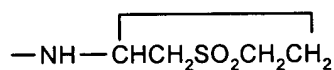
52. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one diacidic light absorbing monomer selected

from the group consisting of the anthraquinone and anthrapyridone colorants having the structures:



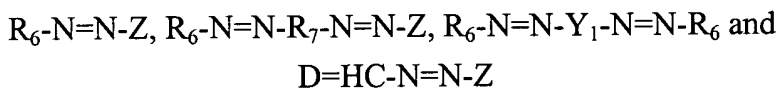


wherein  $R_{14}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and 1-4 groups selected from amino,  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkylamino,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  alkenylamino,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  alkynylamino,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkylamino, arylamino, halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylthio, aryl, aroyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyloxy,  $NHCO$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $NHCO$  aryl,  $NHCO_2$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $NHSO_2$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $NHSO_2$  aryl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxy, arylthio, heteroarylthio, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, thiocyano,  $SO_2$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $SO_2$  aryl,  $-SO_2NH$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $-SO_2N(C_1-C_6$  alkyl) $_2$ ,  $-SO_2N(C_1-C_6$  alkyl) aryl,  $CONH$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $CON(C_1-C_6$  alkyl) $_2$ ,  $CON(C_1-C_6$  alkyl) aryl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, furfurylamino, tetrahydrofurfurylamino, 4-(hydroxymethyl) cyclohexanemethylamino,



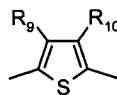
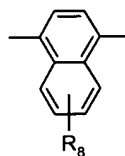
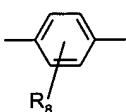
or hydroxy; Q and Q' are independently selected from the group consisting of -O-, -N(COR<sub>10</sub>)-, -N(SO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>10</sub>)-, -N(R<sub>10</sub>)-, -S-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -CO<sub>2</sub>-, -CON(R<sub>10</sub>)-, SO<sub>2</sub>N(R<sub>10</sub>)-, wherein R<sub>10</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl; R<sub>15</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, halogen, arylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, heteroarylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxycarbonyl, aroyl or arylsulfonyl; R<sub>16</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl and aryl; R<sub>16</sub>' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, halogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy; wherein each C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group which is a portion of another group may contain at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, cyano, chlorine, fluorine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylcyclohexyl, hydroxymethyl cyclohexyl, aryl and heteroaryl; with the provision that two acidic groups containing one acidic proton each or one acidic group containing two acidic hydrogens be present in the diacidic compounds.

53. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of A<sub>1</sub> comprises the residue of at least one light absorbing monomer selected from the group consisting of azo, disazo, bis-azo and azomethine and having respectively the structures:



wherein R<sub>6</sub> is the residue of an aromatic or heteroaromatic amine which has been diazotized and coupled with a coupling component H-Z and is derived from an amine selected from the group consisting of aromatic and heteroaromatic amine classes selected from the group consisting of aniline, 1-aminonaphthalene, 1-aminoanthraquinone, 4-aminoazobenzene, 2-aminothiazole, 2-aminobenzothiazole, 3-amino-2,1-benzisothiazole, 2-aminothieno[2,3-d]thiazole, 5-aminoisothiazole, 5-aminopyrazole, 4-aminopyrazoloisothiazole, 2-amino-1,3,4-thiadiazole, 5-amino-1,2,4-thiadiazole, 5-amino-1,2,3-triazole, 2-amino-1,3,4-triazole, 2(5) aminoimidazole, 3-aminopyridine, 2(3) aminothiophene, 2(3) aminobenzo[b]thiophene, 2-aminothieno[3,2-b]thiophene, 3-aminothieno[2,3-c]isothiazole, 3-amino-7-benz-2,1-isothiazole, 3-aminobenzothienoisothiazole, 3-aminoisothiazole[3,4-d]pyrimidine, 5-amino-1,2,3-triazole, 3(4) aminophthalimide and 5(6) amino-1,2-benzisothiazolon-1,1-dioxide with said aromatic and heteroaromatic ring systems being unsubstituted or substituted with one or more groups selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>

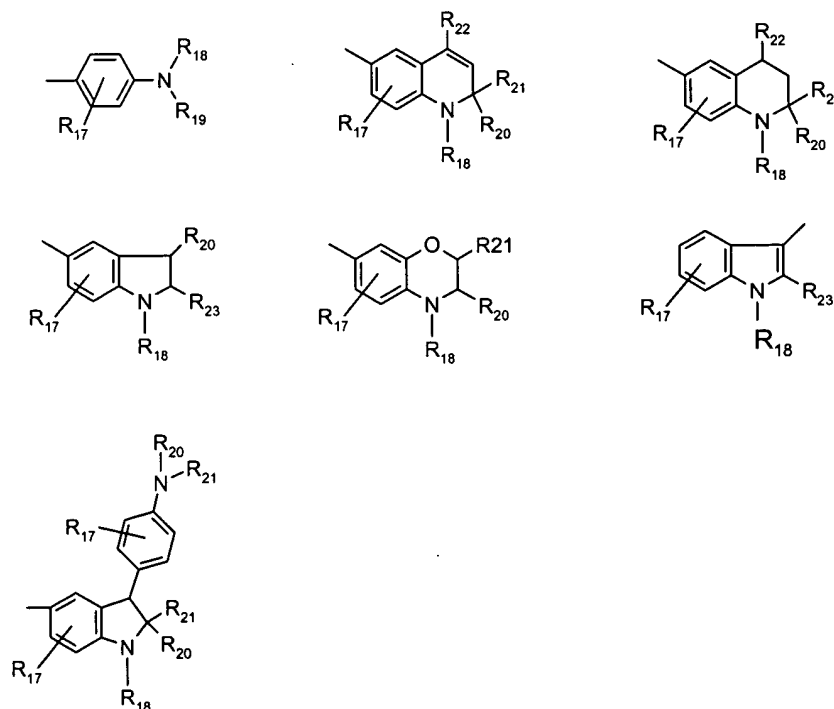
cycloalkyl, carboxy, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxycarbonyl, formyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoyloxy, dicyanovinyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkanoyl, thiocyano, trifluoroacetyl, cyano, carbamoyl, -CONH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, CONHaryl, CON(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)<sub>2</sub>, sulfamoyl, SO<sub>2</sub>NH C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>NHaryl, SO<sub>2</sub>NH C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, CONH C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, aryl, aroyl, -NHSO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)SO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, -NHSO<sub>2</sub> aryl, NHCO C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, NHCO C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, NHCOaryl, NHCO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, NHCONH C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, NHCONHaryl, N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)aryl, arylazo, heteroaryl, aryloxy, arylthio, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkoxy, heteroarylazo, heteroarylthio, arylsulfonyl, tricyanovinyl, aryloxysulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylsulfonyl, trifluoromethyl, fluorosulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl, thiocyano, hydroxy, nitro or CH=D, wherein D is the residue of an active methylene compound selected from the group consisting of malononitrile, α-cyanoacetic acid esters, malonic acid esters, α-cyanacetic acid amides, α-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-arylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoylacetonitriles, α-aroylacetonitriles, α-heteroarylacetonitriles, bis(heteroaryl)methanes, 1,3-indanediones, 2-furanones, benzo-2-furanones, naphtho-2-furanones, 2-indolones, 3-cyano-1,6-dihydro-4-methyl-2,6-dioxy (2H)-pyridines, benzo (b) thieno-3-ylidene propane dinitrile-5,5-dioxides, 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene) indanes, barbituric acid, 5-pyrazolones, dimedone, 3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1-benzothiophene-1,1-dioxides or aryl-C(CH<sub>3</sub>)C=C(CN)<sub>2</sub>; wherein R<sub>7</sub> is a divalent aromatic or heteroaromatic radical selected from the group consisting of 1,4-phenylene, naphthalene-1,4-diyl, thiazol-2,5-diyl and thiophene-2,5-diyl:



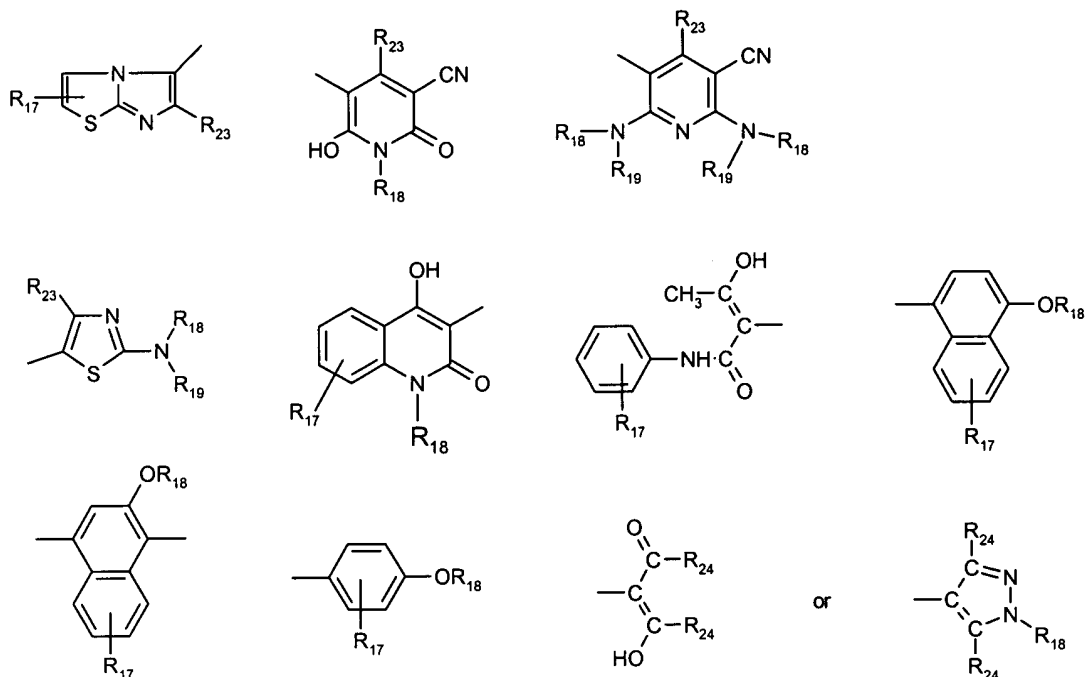
wherein R<sub>8</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or 1-2 groups selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, cyano, halogen, -NHCO C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, -NHCO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, -NHCO aryl, -NHCONH aryl or NHCONH C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; R<sub>9</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, halogen, aryl, heteroaryl; R<sub>10</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, carbamoyl, aryl, arylsulfonyl, aroyl,

-CONH C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylsulfonyl; wherein Z is the residue of a coupling compound selected from the group consisting of electron rich compound classes of anilines, 1-aminonaphthalenes, 1,2-dihydroquinolines, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines, benzomorpholines (3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4-benzoxazine), pyrazolones, pyrazoles, 3-cyano-6-hydroxy-2-pyridones, 2,3-dihydroindoles, indoles, 4-hydroxycoumarins, 4-hydroxy-2-quinolones, imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles, julolidines (2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H,5H-benzo[*ij*]quinolizines), 1-oxajulolidines, 1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-4H-pyrrolo[3,2,1-*ij*]quinolines, 2,6-diamino-3 cyanopyridines, 2-aminothiazoles, 2-aminothiophenes, 5,5-dimethyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione (dimedone), phenols, naphthols, 2,4-pentanediones or acetoacetarilides; wherein Y<sub>1</sub> is the residue of a bis coupling component selected from the group consisting of anilines, 1,2-dihydroquinolines, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines, benzomorpholines (3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4-benzoxazines), 3-cyano-6-hydroxy-2-pyridones, 2,6-diaminopyridines, 2,3-dihydroindoles, naphthylamines, 2-aminothiazoles, or a combination of these; with the provision that two acidic functional groups containing one acidic hydrogen each or a functional group containing two acidic hydrogen are present in the diacidic light absorbing monomer.

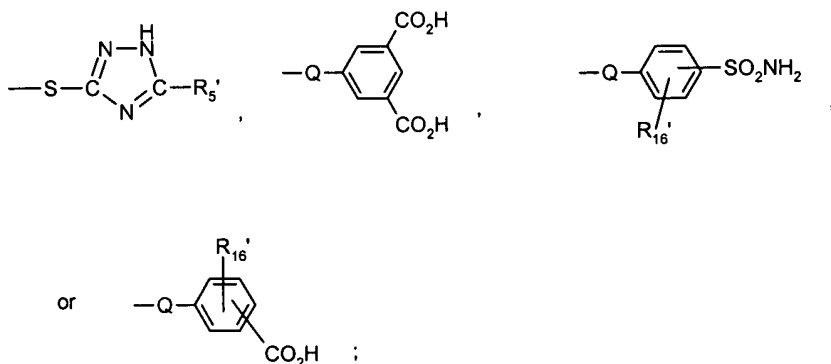
54. (Original) The composition of claim 53 wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of:



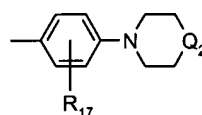




wherein  $R_{17}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, 1-2 groups selected from  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylthio,  $-O$   $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkylene- $OH$ ,  $O$   $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyloxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylene- $OH$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl,  $NHCO_2R_{24}$ ,  $NHCO_2R_{24}$ ,  $NHCON(R_{24})R_{25}$ , and  $NHSO_2R_{25}$ , wherein  $R_{24}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl or aryl,  $R_{25}$  is selected from the group consisting of  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl group in  $R_{24}$  and  $R_{25}$  may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio,  $CO_2H$ ,  $CO_2$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, cyano, hydroxy, succinimido,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy,

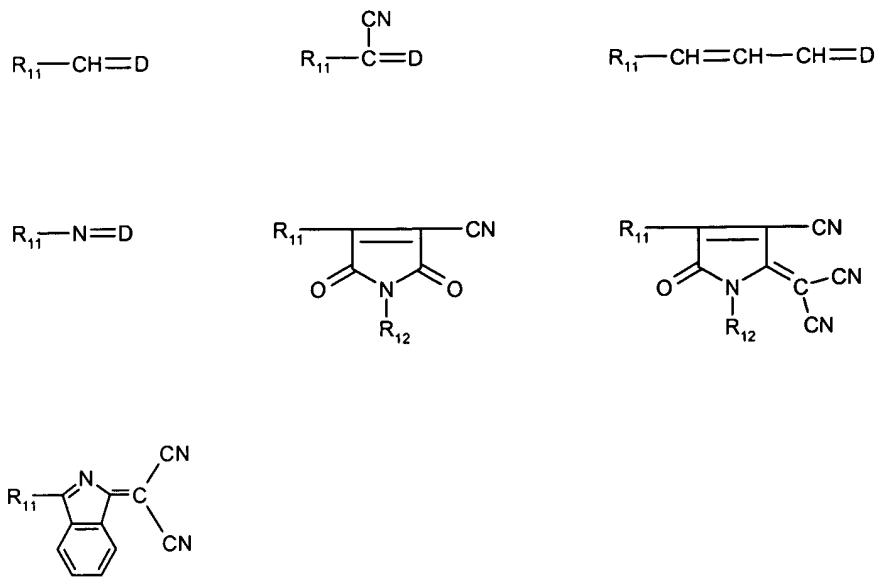


wherein  $R_5'$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or aryl;  $R_{16}'$  is selected from hydrogen or one or two groups selected from  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, halogen and  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy; Q is selected from the group consisting of  $-O-$ ,  $-N(COR_{10})-$ ,  $-N(R_{10})-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-CO_2-$ ,  $-CON(R_{10})$ ,  $-SO_2(R_{10})-$ , wherein  $R_{10}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl;  $R_{18}$  and  $R_{19}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl, substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  alkynyl and aryl or  $R_{18}$  and  $R_{19}$  may be combined with another element to which they are attached to form a radical Z having the formula



wherein  $Q_2$  is selected from the group consisting of a covalent bond,  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-CO-$ ,  $-CO_2-$ ,  $-N-(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-$ ,  $-N(COC_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-$ ,  $-N(SO_2C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-$ ,  $-N(CO \text{ aryl})-$ , or  $-N(SO_2 \text{ aryl})$ ;  $R_{20}$ ,  $R_{21}$  and  $R_{22}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl;  $R_{23}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl.

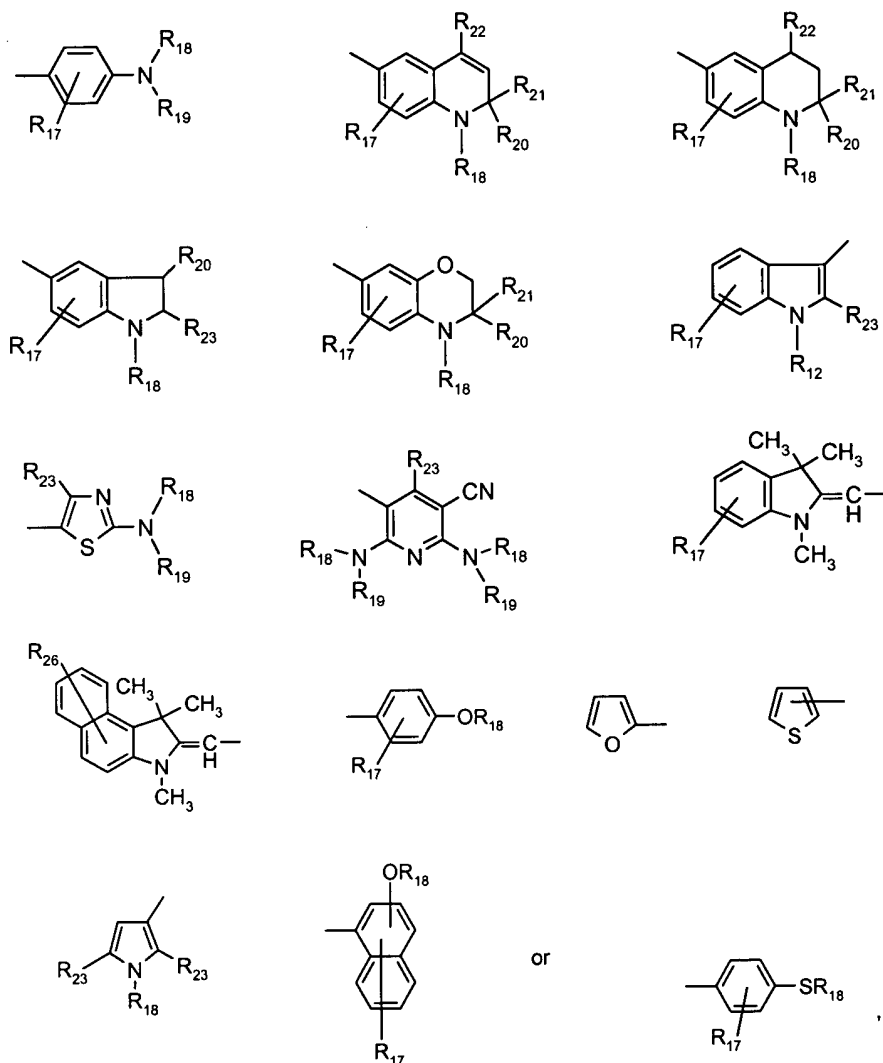
55. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of  $A_1$  comprises the residue of at least one light absorbing monomer selected from the group consisting of methine, arylidene, polymethine, azamethine, 3-aryl-2,5-dioxypyrroline, 3-aryl-5-dicyanomethylene-2-oxypyrroline and arylisoindoline and having respectively the structures:



wherein R<sub>11</sub> is the residue of an electron rich aromatic compound selected from the group consisting of an aniline, 1-naphthylamine, 1,2-dihydroquinoline, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline, 1,3,3-trimethyl-2-methyleneindole, 1,3-dihydro-2-methylene-1,1,3-trimethyl-2H-benz[e]indole, imidazo [2,1-b] thiazole, benzomorpholine (3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4-benzoxazine), 2,3-dihydroindole, indole, 2-aminothiazole, julolidine (2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H, 5H- benz [ij] quinolizine, 1-oxajulolidine, 4H-pyrrolo [3,2,1-ij]-quinoline, phenol, naphthol, thiophenol, pyrrole, pyrazole, furan, thiophene, carbazole, phenothiazine or phenoxazine compound; R<sub>12</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, aryl, (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>1-3</sub> R<sub>13</sub> and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene- C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkylene, wherein the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl groups may be substituted by at least one group selected from the group consisting of carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> carbalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoyloxy, cyano, hydroxy, chlorine, fluorine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl or aryl; R<sub>13</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoyloxy; wherein D is the residue of an active methylene compound selected from the group consisting of malononitrile, α-cyanoacetic acid esters, malonic acid esters, α-cyanacetic acid amides, α-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-arylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoylacetonitriles, α-aroxyacetonitriles, α-heteroarylacetonitriles, bis(heteroaryl)methanes, 1,3-indanediones, 2-furanones, benzo-2-furanones, naphtho-2-furanones, 2-indolones, 3-cyano-1,6-dihydro-4-methyl-2,6-dioxy (2H)-pyridines, benzo (b) thieno-3-ylidene propane dinitrile-5,5-dioxides, 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene) indanes, barbituric acid, 5-pyrazolones, dimedone, 3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1-benzothiophene-1,1-dioxides or aryl-C(CH<sub>3</sub>)C=C(CN)<sub>2</sub>, with the proviso that two

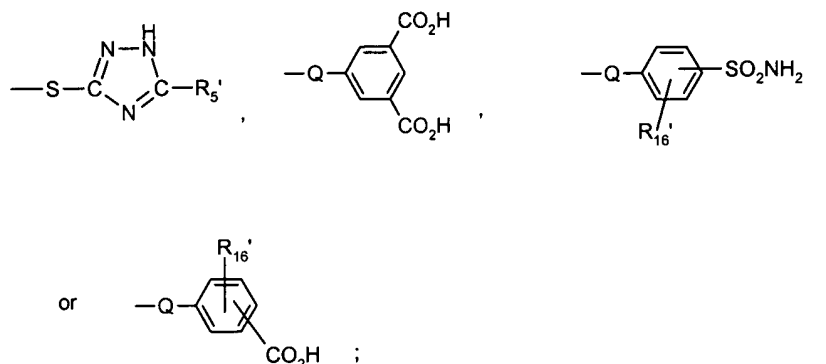
acidic functional groups containing one acidic hydrogen each, or a functional group containing two acidic hydrogens are present.

56. (Original) The composition of claim 55 wherein  $R_{11}$  is selected from the group consisting of the electron rich aromatic residues corresponding to the structures:

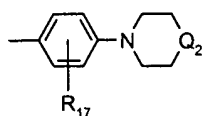


wherein  $R_{26}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or a group selected from the group consisting of  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxycarbonyl,  $CO_2H$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy; wherein  $R_{17}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, and 1-2 groups selected from  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylthio,  $-O$   $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkylene- $OH$ ,  $O$   $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyloxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylene- $OH$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$

alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl,  $\text{NHCOR}_{24}$ ,  $\text{NHCO}_2\text{R}_{24}$ ,  $\text{NHCON}(\text{R}_{24})\text{R}_{25}$ , and  $\text{NHSO}_2\text{R}_{25}$ , wherein  $\text{R}_{24}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_8$  cycloalkyl or aryl,  $\text{R}_{25}$  is selected from the group consisting of  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_8$  cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  alkyl group in  $\text{R}_{24}$  and  $\text{R}_{25}$  may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_8$  cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio,  $\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkyl,



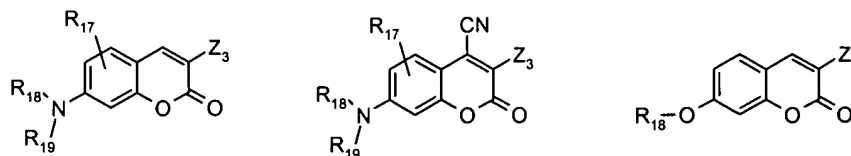
wherein  $\text{R}_5'$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkyl or aryl;  $\text{R}_{16}'$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, one or two groups selected from  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkyl, halogen and  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkoxy;  $\text{Q}$  is selected from the group consisting of  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{COR}_{10})-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}_{10})-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-\text{SO}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2-$ ,  $\text{CON}(\text{R}_{10})$ ,  $\text{SO}_2(\text{R}_{10})-$ , wherein  $\text{R}_{10}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl,  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_8$  cycloalkyl or  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  alkyl;  $\text{R}_{18}$  and  $\text{R}_{19}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  alkyl, substituted  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_8$  cycloalkyl,  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_8$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_8$  alkynyl and aryl or  $\text{R}_{18}$  and  $\text{R}_{19}$  may be combined with another element to which they are attached to form a radical  $\text{Z}$  having the formula



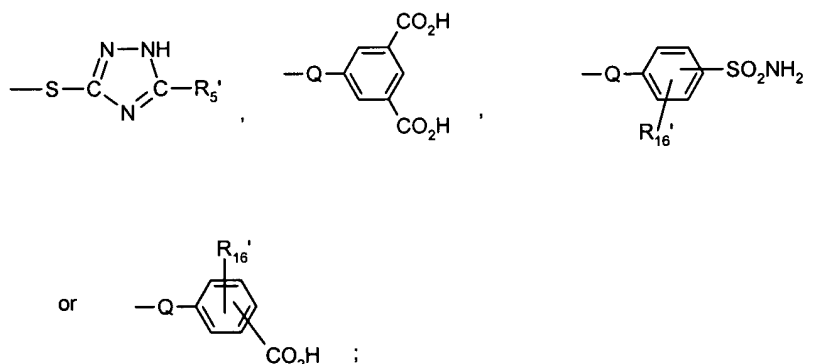
wherein  $\text{Q}_2$  is selected from the group consisting of a covalent bond,  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-\text{SO}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CO}-$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2-$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkyl)-,  $-\text{N}(\text{CO C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkyl)-,  $-\text{N}(\text{SO}_2\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_6$  alkyl)-,  $-\text{N}(\text{CO aryl})-$ , or  $-\text{N}(\text{SO}_2\text{ aryl})$ ;  $\text{R}_{20}$ ,  $\text{R}_{21}$  and  $\text{R}_{22}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of

hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; R<sub>23</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl.

57. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of A<sub>1</sub> comprises a residue of at least one diacidic coumarin compounds selected from the group consisting of the structures

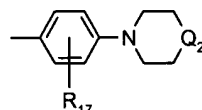


wherein Z<sub>3</sub> is selected from the group consisting of cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aryl, heteroaryl, formyl, aroyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoyl or -CH=D, wherein R<sub>17</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, 1-2 groups selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylthio, -O C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene-OH, O C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene-OH, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl, trifluoromethyl, NHCOR<sub>24</sub>, NHCO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>24</sub>, NHCON(R<sub>24</sub>)R<sub>25</sub>, and NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>25</sub>, wherein R<sub>24</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl or aryl, R<sub>25</sub> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl group in R<sub>24</sub> and R<sub>25</sub> may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, CO<sub>2</sub>H, CO<sub>2</sub> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, cyano, hydroxy, succinimido, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy,



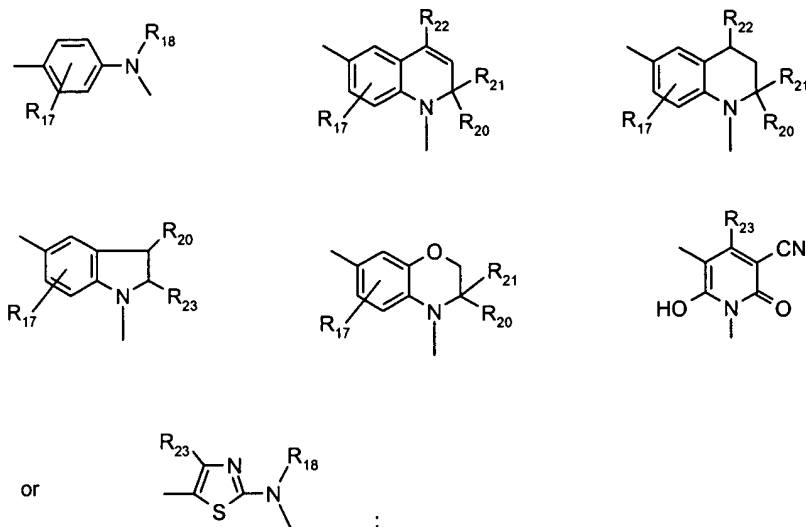
wherein R<sub>5</sub>' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or aryl; R<sub>16</sub>' is selected from hydrogen or one or two groups selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, halogen, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>

alkoxy; Q is selected from the group consisting of  $-O-$ ,  $-N(COR_{10})-$ ,  $-N(R_{10})-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-CO_2-$ ,  $CON(R_{10})$ ,  $SO_2(R_{10})-$ , wherein  $R_{10}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl,  $C_3-C_8$  cycloalkyl or  $C_1-C_{10}$  alkyl;  $R_{18}$  and  $R_{19}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted  $C_1-C_{10}$  alkyl, substituted  $C_1-C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3-C_8$  cycloalkyl,  $C_3-C_8$  alkenyl,  $C_3-C_8$  alkynyl and aryl or  $R_{18}$  and  $R_{19}$  may be combined with another element to which they are attached to form a radical Z having the formula



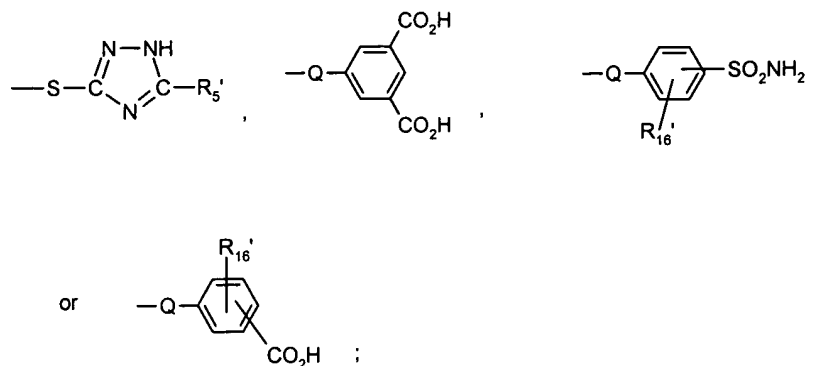
wherein  $Q_2$  is selected from the group consisting of a covalent bond,  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ ,  $-CO-$ ,  $-CO_2-$ ,  $-N-(C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-$ ,  $-N(CO \text{ } C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-$ ,  $-N(SO_2 \text{ } C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl})-$ ,  $-N(CO \text{ aryl})-$ , or  $-N(SO_2 \text{ aryl})$ ;  $R_{20}$ ,  $R_{21}$  and  $R_{22}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of or  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl;  $R_{23}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl,  $C_3-C_8$  cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl; wherein D is the residue of an active methylene compound selected from the group consisting of malononitrile,  $\alpha$ -cyanoacetic acid esters, malonic acid esters,  $\alpha$ -cyanacetic acid amides,  $\alpha$ - $C_1-C_6$  alkylsulfonylacetoneitriles,  $\alpha$ -arylsulfonylacetoneitriles,  $\alpha$ - $C_1-C_6$  alkanoylacetoneitriles,  $\alpha$ -aroylacetoneitriles,  $\alpha$ -heteroarylacetoneitriles, bis(heteroaryl)methanes, 1,3-indanediones, 2-furanones, benzo-2-furanones, naphtho-2-furanones, 2-indolones, 3-cyano-1,6-dihydro-4-methyl-2,6-dioxy (2H)-pyridines, benzo (b) thieno-3-ylidene propane dinitrile-5,5-dioxides, 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene) indanes, barbituric acid, 5-pyrazolones, dimedone, 3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1-benzothiophene-1,1-dioxides or  $aryl-C(CH_3)C=C(CN)_2$ , with the proviso that two acidic functional groups containing one acidic hydrogen each, or a functional group containing two acidic hydrogens are present.

58. (Original) The composition of claim 54 wherein the light absorbing portion of  $A_1$  comprises the residue of at least one bis-azo light absorbing monomer wherein the bis coupling component  $Y_1$  is represented by the structure  $Z_1-L_1-Z_2$ , wherein  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are independently selected from the group consisting of



wherein,  $L_1$  is bonded to the nitrogen atom of  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$ ; wherein  $L_1$  is selected from the group consisting of  $C_2$ - $C_{12}$  alkylene,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkylene, arylene,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene-  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene-arylene-  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-O- arylene-O-  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $(C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene O) $_{1-3}$   $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene- S-  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-SO $_2$ -  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-N(SO $_2$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl)-  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-N(SO $_2$  aryl)-  $C_2$ -  $C_4$ - alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene- OCO $_2$ -  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene- O $_2$ C-arylene-CO $_2$ -  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-O $_2$ C-  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$  alkylene-CO $_2$ -  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-O $_2$ C-  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkylene-CO $_2$ -  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-NHCO-  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene and  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene-NHSO $_2$ -  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkylene; wherein  $R_{17}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, 1-2 groups selected from  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylthio, -O  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkylene-OH, O  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyloxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylene-OH,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylene-  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl,  $NHCO_2R_{24}$ ,  $NHCON(R_{24})R_{25}$ , and  $NHSO_2R_{25}$ , wherein  $R_{24}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl or aryl,  $R_{25}$  is selected from the group consisting of  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl group in  $R_{24}$  and  $R_{25}$  may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, CO $_2$ H, CO $_2$   $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, cyano, hydroxy, succinimido,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy,





wherein  $\text{R}_{5'}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  alkyl or aryl;  $\text{R}_{16'}$  is selected from hydrogen or one or two groups selected from  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  alkyl, halogen and  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  alkoxy; Q is selected from the group consisting of  $\text{---O---}$ ,  $\text{---N(COR}_{10}\text{)---}$ ,  $\text{---N(R}_{10}\text{)---}$ ,  $\text{---S---}$ ,  $\text{---SO}_2\text{---}$ ,  $\text{---CO}_2\text{---}$ ,  $\text{CON(R}_{10}\text{)}$ ,  $\text{SO}_2(\text{R}_{10}\text{)---}$ , wherein  $\text{R}_{10}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl,  $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$  cycloalkyl or  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_{10}$  alkyl;  $\text{R}_{18}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_{10}$  alkyl, substituted  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_{10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$  cycloalkyl,  $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$  alkenyl,  $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$  alkynyl and aryl;  $\text{R}_{20}$ ,  $\text{R}_{21}$ ,  $\text{R}_{22}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of or  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  alkyl;  $\text{R}_{23}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $\text{C}_1\text{--C}_6$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_3\text{--C}_8$  cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl.

Claims 59 - 129 (Canceled).

## **REMARKS**

The following remarks are submitted to address the issues raised in the Advisory Action mailed September 22, 2003, and to address the issues raised in the Office Action mailed June 19, 2003.

Applicants specifically request non-entry of the amendments requested in the response under 37 CFR 1.116 filed August 19, 2003. The listing of claims in this response should replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-26, 28-42, 52-58, and 109-129 are pending in the present application.

Claims 59-108 were canceled in a preliminary amendment filed December 29, 2000.

Claims 27 and 43-51 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Claims 109-129 were added by amendment filed April 14, 2003, and have been canceled.

Claims 23-25, 35, 38, 42, 109-111, 114, 117, 121, and 122 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by US 5,243,021 to Langer et al.

Claims 26, 28, 36, 37, 39, 40, 52-58, 112, 113, 115, 116, 118-120, and 123-129 stand objected to as indicated below.

Claims 1-22 and 29-34 are allowable over the prior art.

No new matter has been added.

Consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

### **Claim Amendments and Cancellations**

Claim 23 has been amended to recite “[a] colored light absorbing composition having the formula . . . .” Support for the amendment can be found on the following pages of the application: p. 1, ln. 17-22; p. 2, ln. 33-36; p. 11, ln. 23-28; p. 31, ln. 12-17, and pp. 36-38.

Claim 24 has been amended to recite a thermoplastic polymer blended with at least one “colored” light absorbing linear polymeric composition of claim 23. Support for this amendment can be found on the following pages of the application: p. 1, ln. 11-22.

Claim 28 has been amended to be consistent with claim 25, from which claim 28 depends.

Claims 26, 36, 37, and 39-41 have been rewritten in independent form.

Claims 109-129 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein.

**Claims 23, 24, 25, 35, 38, 42, 109-111, 114, 117, 121, and 122 — 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Because claims 109-111, 114, 117, 121, and 122 are canceled, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Langer is moot.

The rejection of claims 23, 24, 25, 35, 38, and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Langer is respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to colorants and to methods for preparing light absorbing polymeric compositions which because of their light absorbing properties result in the polymeric compositions that exhibit a particular color. The polymer compositions can be blended with a thermoplastic causing the thermoplastic to also become colored.

Langer relates to water-dispersible copolymers which contain a UVA light-absorbing monomer, a UVB light-absorbing monomer, and a hydrophilic monomer component. The copolyesters may be used in fabric care compositions, personal product compositions, and in other applications recognized by those skilled in the art.

Applicants have amended claim 23 to recite “[a] colored light absorbing composition having the formula . . . .” Langer does not disclose colored polymer compositions. Langer discloses polymer compositions made from stilbene (col. 18, ln. 33-54), and planar aromatic and alkane esters (col. 18, ln. 55-59), neither of which are colored. Further, there is no suggestion or teaching in Langer to use colored UV absorbing polymer compositions.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 23 is not anticipated by the UV absorbing polymers disclosed in Langer. As claims 24, 25, 35, 38 and 42 depend from claim 23, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 24, 25, 35, 38 and 42 are also patentable over Langer.

**Claims 26, 28, 36, 37, 39, 40, 52-58, 112, 113, 115, 116, 118-120, and 123-129 - Objection**

Because claims 112, 113, 115, 116, 118-120, and 123-129 have been canceled, the objection to these claims is moot.

The objection to claims 26, 36, 37, 39, 40, and 52-58 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim is respectfully traversed.

Claim 28 ultimately depends from claim 23. Applicants submit that claim 28 is patentable based on its dependency from amended claim 23.

Claims 26, 36, 37, 39, and 40 have been rewritten in independent form.

Claims 52-58 ultimately depend from claim 26. Applicants submit that claims 52-58 are patentable based on their dependency from independent claim 26.

**Claim 41**

Applicants note that the status of claim 41 is not explicitly stated in the Office Action mailed June 19, 2003.

Claim 41 has been rewritten in independent form, and Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 41 is not anticipated by the references cited by the Examiner in this case.

**Examiner's Remarks in Advisory Action**

Contrary to the Examiner's statement in the Advisory Action, Langer does not disclose thermoplastic polymers blended with light absorbing polymers. Langer discloses the use of cationic polymers such as "copolymers of dimethylaminoethylmethacrylate and

acrylamide.” (col. 11, ln. 22-29). Langer also discloses the use of crosslinked polyacrylates. (col. 12, ln. 30-32). The cationic polymers and crosslinked polyacrylates disclosed in Langer are not thermoplastic polymers.

While Applicants disagree with the Examiner’s statement that Langer discloses thermoplastic polymers blended with light absorbing polymers, in order to expedite the examination of the application, Applicants have amended claim 24 to include the limitation of colored from claim 23.

### Fee

The fee of \$770.00 for Request for Continued Examination is included with this response.

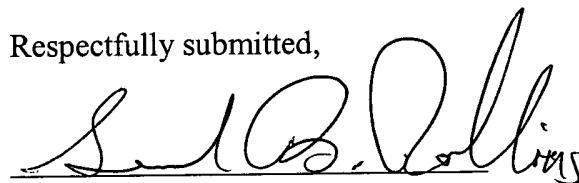
### CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, a favorable Office Action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Sam Rollins at (336) 607-7432 to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Date:

Oct. 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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